

Message Text

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ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 NSF-04 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-11

NSAE-00 RSC-01 EA-11 ARA-16 DLOS-07 OIC-04 DRC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2063

INFO AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: TGEN XV BE

SUBJECT: ANARCTIC TREATY: EIGHT CONSULTATIVE MEETING

REF: STATE 193161

1. IN CONVERSATION ON OTHER TOPICS REPORTED SEPTELS, BELGIUM'S DOS AND ANTARCTIC TREATY EXPERT, VAN DER ESSEN, TOLD US THAT HIS SOLE CONCERN ON TIMING FOR THE EIGHTH ANTARCTIC TREATY CONSULTATIVE MEETING WAS NOT TO CONFLICT WITH THE NEXT LOS MEETING. HE POINTED OUT PROBLEM POSED FOR BELGIUM, AND OTHERS, WHICH HAS ONLY ONE EXPERT TO COVER BOTH SUBJECTS. HE RECOGNIZED THAT APRIL 1975 DATE WAS ALREADY A POSTPONEMENT AND WAS AGREEABLE TO MOVING UP THE DATE AS LONG AS THERE WERE NO CONFLICTS. HE NOTED THAT IF THERE WERE A CONFLICT OR NEAR CONFLICT IN DATES, BELGIUM DID NOT HAVE THE STAFF TO COVER BOTH MEETING AND SO WOULD NOT BE REPRESENTED AT ANTARCTIC MEETING, WHICH WAS OF SECONDARY CONCERN TO LOS. HE SUGGESTED THAT QUESTION OF DATES COULD BE SORTED OUT AT OSLO PREPCOMM MEETING IN OCTOBER WHERE HE THOUGHT IT MIGHT ALSO BE USEFUL TO HAVE LOS EXPERTS PRESENT TO DISCUSS AREAS OF OVERLAP BETWEEN LOS AND ANTARCTIC MATTERS,
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LARGELY MINERAL EXPLOITATION AND CONTINENTAL SHELF

ISSUES. HE SUGGESTED IT MIGHT BE WORTHWHILE TO DEVELOP
A COMMON ANTARCTIC TREATY GROUP POSITION ON THESE
PRIOR TO NEXT LOS MEETING.

2. COMMENT: LAST POINT WAS NOT A FORMAL PROPOSAL, SIMPLY
THE PASSING PERSONAL THOUGHT OF THE BELGIAN OFFICIAL
RESPONSIBLE FOR BOTH ANTARCTIC AND LOS MATTERS.
FIRESTONE

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Message Attributes

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